



# SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

*(Built by Slaves – 1799)*

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**Sunday, March 2, 2025**

## **UNITY SUNDAY**

**Last Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Transfiguration of our Lord**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Welcome:** Welcome to all today, Unity Sunday, whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad, as we observe the 568th Anniversary of the founding of the Moravian Church (March 1, 1457). We worship God and give thanks for inspiring those who have left us a legacy of faith and service, and we commit ourselves to God today that we may do the same.

***Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris***

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**WATCHWORD:** And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus alone. *(Matthew 17:8)*

**Provincial Theme 2025:**

***“SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, and Re-Igniting Our Passion”***



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Unity  
Sunday

Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship

Litany For Unity Sunday (Moravian Festivals) p. 194 – CMP Liturgy Book /Projected  
Worship in Tithes & Offerings, including **UNITY OFFERING**

Offertory Sentence: *Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness. (2 Cor. 9:10)*

Offertory Hymn: 236 – “Lift Up Your Hearts!”

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “Thanks, Thanks, I Give You Thanks”

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Song

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 9:28 – 43

Church Choir – “One Bread, One Body”

Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn of Reflection: 162 – “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” **Tune: Love Divine - # 149**

Musical Interlude / Prayer of Preparation (p. 50 – Liturgy Book / p. 9 – Hymnal)

Holy Communion

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Consecration of the Bread

Distribution Hymns: 560 – “Come Take By Faith”

581 – “Here O My Lord I See Thee Face to Face”

202 – “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

Consecration of the Wine

Distribution Hymns: 568 – “My Shepherd Is The Lamb”

220 – “And Can It Be”

326 – “O For A Heart to Praise My God”

Hymn of Thanksgiving: 588 – “For The Bread And For The Wine”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Covenant Hymn: 447 – “What Brought Us Together”

The Blessing & Organ Postlude



**Organ Prelude  
Introit – Choir  
Call to Worship**



## **Litany for the Observance of Moravian Festivals**

*(Appropriate for usage on March 1, July 6 & August 13)*

*All standing*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

*Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.*

For the Lord is a great God;

*And a great King above all gods.*

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord;

*And to sing praises unto your name, O most high.*

To show forth your lovingkindness in the morning;

*And your faithfulness every night.*

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever:

*With my mouth will I make known your faithfulness to all generations.*

*Tune: OLD 124th*

Our Lamb has conquered: let us follow him,  
With eagerness of heart and strength of limb,  
Brave in endeavor, with young vision clear,  
And high thanksgiving for God's purpose here –  
Our Lamb has conquered: let us follow him.

In loving service may our lives be spent,  
Finding in others' gladness sweet content,  
Striving to show the brotherhood of man,  
Of God's ordaining since the world began –  
In loving service may our lives be spent.

*1934. Dorothy A. Connor*

Let us pray

*(All seated)*

Loving Lord, we worship and adore you, the source of our strength and our salvation. We praise and thank you for every blessing in this life. We recognize your goodness to us and give you thanks for your mercies which come to us afresh day by day. We acknowledge that, as the sheep of your pasture, we lack nothing. We thank you for walking with us all along life's way. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have taken your goodness for granted and have behaved as though we are masters of our own lives. Create new hearts within us, Lord, so that we may live according to your will for us. In your name, Jesus, we pray. ***Amen.***

You have given us life and provided all things necessary;  
You have led us day by day and protected us from harm and danger;  
You have given us strength to overcome temptation and victory over the power of the enemy.

***Let us praise God for his goodness, and for his marvellous works to all his creatures.***

You have given us the example of your disciples, who faithfully built your Church;  
You have given us faithful leaders who followed your path even when it led to death;  
You have given us ancestors who remained faithful to you in spite of the persecution they suffered.

***Let us praise God for his goodness, and for his marvellous works to all his creatures.***

You touched the disciples on the Day of Pentecost and anointed them to preach the Good News to every nation;  
You touched our ancestors on that day of renewal, causing them to truly love, and to forgive each other;

***Come, Holy Spirit, and touch us now.***

You give us men and women in this day who serve you diligently;  
You raise up young and old whom you have blessed to bless others;  
You give to all people varied talents and skills which we may use for your honour and glory.

***You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are created!***

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end: they are new every morning.

***Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.***

*Tune: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC*

When to our golden heritage  
We take another look;  
We see our fathers living there  
As one in unity,  
Let us therefore seek to emulate  
This great example set;  
It's strength through unity.

*Rise up now all ye Moravians  
Rise up now all ye Moravians,  
Rise up now all ye Moravians  
And fight for unity.*

Come let us make this pledge to God  
And to our brothers all;  
To give to God the glory  
And our brother, sisters, love;  
So the world shall be the richer and  
His peace will flood our lives,  
From strength through unity.

*1980. Neilson Waithe*

O God our loving Father, we thank you:  
For the service of your servants, rendered in our church through the years.  
For their commitment to service and their loyalty to you;  
For their strength of character and their patience in tribulation;  
***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For John Hus who bravely stood for honesty in service and integrity in witness;  
For his boldness to stand in favour of the standards of God whilst standing against  
the institutions of his day,  
For his courage to face death by fire because of his Christian conviction;  
***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For John Amos Comenius who assisted persecuted Christians in finding refuge;  
For his prayer for the church that God might preserve a 'hidden seed to glorify his  
name';  
For that 'hidden seed' which sprung to life nearly a century later;  
***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For Christian David who continued the labour of finding refuge for our persecuted ancestors;

For his encounter with Count Zinzendorf and the Count's willingness to 'give these Christians land whilst Christ gave them rest';

***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For Count Zinzendorf's encounter with the slave Anthony and his zeal in leading the Moravians into mission;

For the commitment of David Nitschmann and Leonard Dober, our first missionaries;

***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For the first missionaries to our islands and the many who followed to share the Good News;

For the early planters who gave of their land and support to this work;

***We give you thanks; O Lord.***

For these 568 years of worship, witness and work of the Moravian Church worldwide;

For the 293 years of missionary activity;

For the 293 years of service in our Province of the Moravian Church;

For the 260 years of existence of the Moravian Church in this country;

***We thank you, O Lord, for your faithfulness to us through the years, and for the many who have labored faithfully throughout time and those who continue faithfully to do so today.***

And now, O Christ, who came not to be ministered unto, but to minister: bless all those who follow in your steps. Give us each the courage to follow in their steps. Grant us zeal and patience to serve as following one Master and looking for one reward. Endue us with wisdom to pray, not for tasks equal to our strength, but rather for strength equal to our tasks. Lead us to the joy of service for the Master and loving commitment to his will. So may his duty be our delight. ***Amen.***

***All standing***

***Tune: AURELIA***

When time rolls on with purpose,  
Yes, purpose and with goals,  
Concealed, but not forgotten  
Until this day unfolds,  
And now we celebrate you,  
Though struggles come with woes,  
Abiding by your promise,

That where we go, He goes.

Sing praises to the Father;  
Sing praises to the Son,  
For past-time generations  
And future souls to come;  
O Lord of time and wonder,  
We feel your presence here:  
Release your power upon us  
And give us hearts to care.

Sing Alleluia! Praise Him!  
We raise our voices now:  
We thank You, Holy Father  
For missionaries' vows:  
A loud Hosanna sing we  
For what we are today;  
For blessings past and present,  
We now our homage pay.

*Elva Kitson, d. 2011*



## **WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS INCLUDING UNITY OFFERING**

**Offertory Sentence:** *Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness. (2 Cor. 9:10)*

### **Offertory Hymn: 236 –**

‘Lift up your hearts!’ we lift them, Lord, to thee;  
Here at thy feet none other may we see:  
‘Lift up your hearts!’ E’en so, with one accord,  
We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord.

Above the level of the former years,  
The mire of sin, the slough of guilty fears,  
The mist of doubt, the blight of love’s decay,  
O Lord of light, lift all our hearts today!

Lift every gift that thou thyself hast given;  
Low lies the best till lifted up to heaven:

Low lie the bounding heart, the teeming brain,  
Till, sent from God, they mount to God again.

Then, as the trumpet-call in after years,  
'Lift up your hearts!' rings pealing in our ears,  
Still shall those hearts respond with full accord,  
'We lift them up, we lift them to the Lord!'



## Prayer of Dedication of Offerings



## Offertory Doxology:

**Thanks, thanks, I give you thanks**

*Thanks, thanks, I give you thanks  
For all you've done  
I am so blessed, my soul is at rest  
O Lord, I give you thanks.*



## Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



## Adoration in Song



## Ministry of the Word

**First Scripture Reading:            2 Corinthians 3: 12 – 4:2**

12. Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:
- 13 And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:
- 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.
- 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.
- 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.
- 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

**18** But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

## **2 Corinthians 4**

- 1.** Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;
- 2.** But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.



### **Second Scripture Reading:**

### **Luke 9:28 – 43**

- 28.** And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray.
- 29.** And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering.
- 30.** And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:
- 31.** Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.
- 32.** But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him.
- 33.** And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias: not knowing what he said.
- 34.** While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud.
- 35.** And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
- 36.** And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close, and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.
- 37.** And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.

38. And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.
39. And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.
40. And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.
41. And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.
42. And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.
43. And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,



### **Choir Anthem – “One Bread, One Body”**



### **Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris**



### **Prayer of Commitment & Intercession**



### **Hymn of Reflection: 162 –**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown;

Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation;  
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all thy grace receive;

Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more thy temples leave:

Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.



## MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation



### The Lord's Supper I

*A Prayer for private preparation:*

*I confess to thee, O God, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed through my own fault; wherefore I pray thee to have mercy upon me. O Lord, forgive me all my sins, and deliver me from evil; confirm me in all goodness; and bring me to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

*The congregation stands as the minister brings the elements to the table.*

Our Saviour saith, 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.'

I am the bread of life: whoever cometh to me shall never hunger; and whoever believeth in me shall never thirst.'

*We do not presume to come to this thy table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold mercies.*

*But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; grant us, gracious Lord, so to take this bread and drink this cup, that our*

*fellowship with Thee may cleanse us from our sin and that we may evermore dwell in thee, and thou in us.* *Amen.*

*A hymn is sung, or the Sursum Corda is used:*

Lift up your hearts:

*We lift them up unto the Lord.*

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God:

*It is meet and right so to do.*

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,

*Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee O Lord most high.*

*Prayer is offered, or this form may be used:*

**Let us pray.**

All glory and thanksgiving be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that thou didst take our nature upon thee, and suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; that thou didst make there a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world; and didst institute, and in thy holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that thy precious death.

Wherefore, we commemorate thy last supper with thy disciples and having in remembrance thy work and passion, thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and pleading thy eternal sacrifice, we thy servants do set forth this memorial which thou willest us to make, giving thee thanks that thou hast counted us worthy to stand before thee.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O Lord, that with thy holy life-giving Spirit thou wilt bless and sanctify both us and these gifts of bread and wine which we set before thee; that this bread which we break may be to us the communion of thy body; and the cup of blessing which we bless the communion of thy blood; that we, and thy whole Church, receiving the same by faith, may be partakers of thy body and blood, to our spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice, humbly beseeching thee that all we who

are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences: and in fellowship with all the faithful in heaven and earth, we pray thee to fulfil in us and in all thy people the purpose of thy redeeming love; and to thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. *AMEN.*



*All stand.*

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, *‘Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me.’*

*The Bread is distributed while hymns are sung.*



### **Hymn 560 –**

Come, take by faith the body of our Lord,  
And drink the blood of Christ for you outpoured.

Salvation’s giver, Christ, the only Son,  
Who by his cross and blood the victory won.

Offered was he for greatest and for least,  
Himself the Victim and himself the Priest.

He, ransom from death, and light from shade,  
Giveth his holy grace his saints to aid.

Approach ye then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.

He, that his saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;

With heavenly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.

O Judge of all, our only Saviour thou,  
In this thy feast of love, be with us now.



## Hymn 581 –

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;  
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,  
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of Heaven;  
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need  
Another arm save Thine to lean upon;  
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness:  
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;  
Thy Blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God!

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
This is the heavenly table spread for me;  
Here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong  
The brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by;  
Yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,  
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
The Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.



## Hymn 202 –

O Love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;

My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red  
Life that shall endless be.



***All having received the Bread, the Congregation stands.***

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ's body was given for you: and feed upon him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

***All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:***

*Tune: Media Vita (Part II)*

***Most holy Lord and God,  
Holy, almighty God,  
Holy and most merciful Saviour,  
Thou eternal God;  
Grant that we may never  
Lose the comforts from thy death,  
Have mercy, O Lord.***



***All stand***

After the same manner also, the Lord Jesus took the cup when he had supped, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink ye all of it, for this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.'

***The Wine is distributed while hymns are sung.***



## Hymn 568 –

My Shepherd is the Lamb,  
The living Lord, who died;  
With all that's truly good I am  
Most plenteously supplied.

He richly feeds my soul  
With manna from above,  
And leads me where the rivers roll  
Of everlasting love.

My table he doth spread  
With choicest fare, and I  
Behold the Lamb, the living Bread,  
And eat most joyfully.

He makes my cup run o'er,  
Anointeth me with oil;  
I shall enjoy for evermore  
The merits of his toil.

Then I my Shepherd's care  
Shall praise, and him adore,  
And in his Father's house shall share  
True bliss for evermore.



## Hymn 220 –

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain –  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:  
Who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the firstborn seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above –  
So free, so infinite His grace –  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race:  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
For O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray –  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;  
Alive in Him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.



### Hymn 326 –

O for a heart to praise my God,  
A heart from sin set free,  
A heart that's sprinkled with the blood  
So freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,  
My great Redeemer's throne,  
Where only Christ is heard to speak,  
Where Jesus reigns alone.

A humble, lowly, contrite, heart,  
Believing, true and clean,  
Which neither life nor death can part  
From him who dwells within.

A heart in every thought renewed  
And full of love divine,

Perfect and right and pure and good,  
A copy, Lord, of thine.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;  
Come quickly from above;  
Write thy new name upon my heart,  
Thy new, best name of love.



*All having received the Wine, the Congregation stands.*

Take and drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be ye thankful.

*All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:*

*Most holy Lord and God,  
Holy, almighty God,  
Holy and most merciful Saviour,  
Thou eternal God;  
Bless thy congregation  
Through thy sufferings, death and blood,  
Have mercy, O Lord.*



*Verses of Thanksgiving may be sung or a prayer of thanksgiving such as the following is offered:*



### **Hymn of Thanksgiving – 588**

For the bread and for the wine,  
For the pledge that seals Him mine,  
For the words of love divine,  
We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

For the feast of love and peace,  
Bidding all our sorrows cease,  
Earnest of the kingdom's bliss,  
We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

For the words that turn our eye  
To the cross of Calvary,  
Bidding us in faith draw nigh,  
We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

Till He come we take the bread,  
Type of Him on whom we feed,  
Him who liveth and was dead;  
We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

Till He come we take the cup;  
As we at His table sup,  
Eye and heart are lifted up!  
We give Thee thanks, O Lord.



O Christ, our ever-living Lord, who in thy great love hast fed us at thy table, we most heartily thank thee for this time of fellowship, and for the spiritual strength and comfort thou dost impart to our souls. Grant us thy help to keep the vows which here we renew. May the uplifting sense of thy presence remain with us to guide and defend our lives.

We praise thee that thou has made us members of thy mystical body, the blessed company of all faithful people: and we commend to thee all those who are joined to us in the one true faith. We bring to thee in love and tenderness all who are dear to us .... Be pleased to unite thy people everywhere in love and charity; and let thy Church spread abroad in the earth, drawing all people unto thyself, that they may find redemption and peace in thee.

Rejoicing in the communion of saints, we thank thee for all thy servants who have departed in the faith, the great cloud of witnesses by whom we are encompassed, who in every age have loved thee in life, and continued faithful unto death, especially those most dear to our own hearts ..... Give us grace with them to follow thee, and bring us at the last to those things which eye hath not seen nor ear heard, which thou hast prepared for them that love thee.

Now, unto him that loved us, and hath loosed us from our sins by his blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto his God and Father, unto him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

***During a covenant hymn, the right hand of fellowship is given, as a pledge of rededication to the service of Christ and a sign of our oneness in him.***



## Covenant Hymn: 447 –

What brought us together, what joinèd our hearts?  
The pardon which Jesus, our High-Priest, imparts;  
'Tis this which cements the disciples of Christ,  
Who are into one by the Spirit baptized.

Is this our high calling, harmonious to dwell,  
And thus in sweet concert Christ's praises to tell,  
In peace and blest union our moments to spend,  
And live in communion with Jesus our Friend?

O yes, having found in the Lord our delight,  
He is our chief object by day and by night;  
This knits us together, no longer we roam,  
We all have one Father, and heaven is our home.



### *The Blessing:*

THE Lord bless thee and keep thee;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

*In the name of Jesus. AMEN.*

*All remain standing whilst the minister removes the elements from the table.*



### Organ Postlude



### Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

**Welcome:** *Welcome to all today, Unity Sunday, whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad, as we observe the 568th Anniversary of the founding of the Moravian Church (March 1, 1457). We worship God and give thanks for inspiring those who have left us a legacy of faith and service, and we commit ourselves to God today that we may do the same.*





Today: *Cynthia Odle*

Advanced *Brenda Herbert (4<sup>th</sup>), Heather Beckles (5<sup>th</sup>), Carlos Knight & Chloris Hicks (6<sup>th</sup>), Melik Carmichael, Cowyn Franklyn, Jenyre Maynard & Jean Straker (8<sup>th</sup>)*



## MORAVIAN BIRTHDAY SONG

With Thy presence, Lord, our Head and Saviour,  
Bless them all we humbly pray;  
Our dear heavenly Father's love and favour  
Be their comfort every day.  
May the Holy Ghost in each proceeding,  
Favour them with his most gracious leading;  
Thus shall they be truly blessed,  
Both in labour and in rest.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

† Today:

- † Divine Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
- † Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre
- † March of Witness from Malvern Great House to the Mount Tabor Moravian Church, commencing at 3:30 p.m.

**This Week at Sharon:**

- † Office Hours – Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre).
- † Tuesday: Women's Fellowship – First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.
- † Wednesday: **ASH WEDNESDAY**
  - † Ash Wednesday Service (Schools) – 9:00 a.m.
  - † Pastorate Joint Ash Wednesday Service – 7:30 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.
- † Friday: Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.
- † Saturday: Meeting of Island Conference at the D.C. Moore Centre, Sharon, at 10:00 a.m.
- † Next Sunday: Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.

- † Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre
- † Grace Hill's Harvest Festival



### Activities in the Month of March 2025:

- † Moravian Unity Sunday – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:30. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the Unitas Fratrum, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457. We will pray for the work and witness of our Church Unity as we seek to be faithful to the mission of God. A special Unity offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on Unity Sunday
- † Pastorate Joint Ash Wednesday Service – 5<sup>th</sup> online, 7:30 p.m.
- † World Day of Prayer – Friday, 7<sup>th</sup>
- † Meeting of Island Conference – Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m., D.C. Moore Centre.
- † Harvest Festival at Gracehill – Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>
- † Mount Tabor Harvest Fair – Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.
- † Harvest Festival at Mount Tabor – Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup>
- † Theological Education Sunday – 23<sup>rd</sup>



### **NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. At its meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 the Board of Stewards elected its Executive for 2025 as follows: Chairman – Sis. Evelina King-Harper, Vice-Chairman – Sis. Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle, Secretary – Sis. Sian Cumberbatch, Treasurer – Sis. Patricia Brathwaite-Marshall, Assistant Secretary – Sis. Joy Best, Assistant Treasurer – Sis. Jennifer Clarke.
  2. We have closed our year of celebrating 225 years since the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. One planned event remains outstanding, that is the Planting of a Time Capsule, which will be completed when all the items have been gathered.
- † We are still open to contributions under our “225 for 225” drive, in which we ask persons to donate \$225 or multiples of \$225 towards the continuing work of the church. You don’t have to give it all at once, you can fill the envelope over time and bring it in at your convenience. We look forward to your participation in our “225 for 225” drive. **Envelopes are available for collection.** For those who would give electronically can do so by direct deposit to our account at Scotiabank, Warrens – 40274. You can also give via SurePay at a walk-in kiosk or using your online account. Pay to: *Biller*

– The Moravian Church, Account No – 1765-1768-0000, Name – Sharon Moravian Church. A specimen of the envelope is displayed below.



3. If you plan to claim on contributions to our church when filing your 2024 Income Tax Return, please make a request and submit your TAMIS Number, so that a statement can be forwarded to the Barbados Revenue Authority on your behalf. Please send an email to [sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com) or call the Church Office during Office Hours.
4. From the Provincial Board:
  - † The Moravian Unity celebrates its 568th anniversary on March 1, 2025. As we celebrate and reflect, let us intentionally follow the Lamb to change the world. A special Unity Offering will be collected on February 2, 2025, to fund the creation of a Common Moravian Theological Education Curriculum. Please continue to pray for the work and witness of our Church.
  - † At the discretion of the Provincial Board, Rev. Adelyn Mgonela has been granted a six-month extension of call as Pastor of the Ebenezer Moravian Church, from March 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025.
  - † Lay Pastor Isilin Lewis has been reassigned to serve as Lay Pastor at the Ebenezer Moravian Church effective March 16, 2025.
  - † Lay Pastor Ivyn Williams will proceed to official retirement on May 31, 2025. Bro Williams served as Lay Pastor in the St. Kitts Conference since April 1998. Sincere thanks and appreciation are extended to Lay Pastor Williams for his service to God and this Church.
  - † Please pray for Rev. Adelyn Mgonela, Lay Pastor Isilin Lewis, and Lay Pastor Ivyn Williams and their families as they respond to the call of God on their lives.
  - † The Provincial family extends condolences to Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel on the death of her father, Mr. John Hensley Manswell, who died on Saturday, February 22, 2025. The funeral service will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025 at the Goodwood Seventh Day Adventist Church,

Goodwood, Tobago at 11:00 am. Please pray for Rev. Manswell-Daniel and family in their time of grief and loss.

† The Unity Prayer Watch is a special service to the world, offered by the worldwide Moravian Church. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from April 03 – April 17, 2025. The Schedule is as follows:

† Tobago – 12 a.m. April 3 – 11:59 a.m. April 5, 2025

† St. Kitts & The Grenada Mission – 12 p.m. April 5 – 11:59 p.m. April 7, 2025

† Trinidad – 12 a.m. April 8 – 11:59 a.m. April 9, 2025

† Barbados – 12 p.m. April 9 – 11:59 p.m. April 11, 2025

† Antigua – 12 a.m. April 12 – 11:59 p.m. April 14, 2025

† Virgin Islands – 12 a.m. April 15 – 11:59 p.m. April 17, 2025

† Conferences are asked to use creative and innovative ways to observe the time allotted for our members to participate in this unbroken prayer chain.

† This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727, when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. Prayer is still a vital part of our walk with God and the life of the church. Let us therefore be in readiness for this prayer event as we continue to seek God's guidance and direction for our Church, the world, and ourselves.

#### 5. From the Superintendent:

† The 34th Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province will be held in the Trinidad Conference in July 2025. The Synod will be both virtual and in-person. Synod will convene virtually on May 15, 2025, and June 12, 2025, to conduct housekeeping matters and to receive reports. The in-person sessions will be held from July 10 – 16, 2025 in Trinidad, with the 10th and 16th being travels days.

† The Congregations of the Province are being asked to cover the fees and costs of their Pastor(s)/Clergy Delegate(s) as usual. The estimated cost per delegate from Barbados is BD\$3,000, covering a Synod Fee of US\$1,000 and travel cost from Barbados to Trinidad of approximately BD \$1,000.

† The election of delegates is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 2025, in the congregations of the Conference. Pastors have been asked to begin the process of having the Joint Board nominate one person from their congregation.

† As per the Book of Order (Paragraph 4.17), members of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province may submit proposals on any aspect of our church's life, for resolution at the 34th Provincial Synod.

Proposals should be seconded by a member of the Moravian Church and submitted to the Conference Office by February 14th, for consideration by the Island Conference and further submission to the Provincial Office by April 15, 2025.

- † Please begin to make preparations and to pray for the Synod.
- † You can sign up for the upcoming courses offered by the Moravian Institute for this Semester 2. You can learn more and register by following this link: <https://bit.ly/TheMoravianInstitute2025>
- 6. We have resumed the “Basket of Hope” ministry. Each Sunday you are invited to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which will be distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made during the offertory hymn. We are appealing for volunteers to provide the needed management and helping-hands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.
- 7. We are thankful for your financial support.
  - † We do need your ongoing support so that we can maintain our ministry, our facilities and paying property insurance. So we ask for your continued faithfulness in giving as you are able.
  - † You are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.
  - † Generally, those who would give electronically can do so by direct deposit to our account at Scotiabank, Warrens – 40274. You can also give via SurePay at a walk-in kiosk or using your online account. At SurePay you can make payments anonymously to the Moravian Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0000, Name: Sharon Moravian Church*), or if you need your donations recorded for tax purposes and you have a box of envelopes; make payments to the Moravian Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0-[your 3-digit envelope number], Name: Your Name*). Visit [www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary](http://www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary) for these details.
- 8. Our radio broadcast ministry Moravian Voice has been on the air for some 32 years, since Wednesday, July 18, 1990. We rejoice that we have been able to offer this ministry and we are thankful to all our listenership and all who hosted and provided content over the years. We are thankful to our congregations which faithfully sponsored the programme.
  - † We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.
  - † Moravian Voice will also be available on Instagram ([www.instagram.com/moravianvoice/](http://www.instagram.com/moravianvoice/)) and the YouTube Channel of the

Moravian Church Barbados Conference  
(<https://youtube.com/c/TheMoravianChurch-BarbadosConference>).

✝ You can email your comments and requests to: [moravianvoice@gmail.com](mailto:moravianvoice@gmail.com)

✝ Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.



### PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne*

2. The Sick/Recovering:

✝ *Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Zelia Kellman, Sis. Shanna King (USA)*

3. World Peace



### AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

✝ **Offering Envelopes for 2025** – We invite each member of the congregation to receive a box of envelopes and thereby seek to faithfully support the work of the church. Please request that a box be provided for you if none has been provided as yet.

✝ **Missionary Collection Boxes 2025** – If you had a box last year, please collect it from the Vestry. If you desire a box for the first time, please inquire at the vestry after worship or at the Church Office.

✝ **Sharon Burgundy Shirts:** Polos – \$30 / T-Shirts – \$15

✝ **Copies of Sunday sermons on CD** – \$2.00.

✝ **Books:**

📖 **Rev. Neilson Waithe:** Understanding the Caribbean Worker – \$25; Provocation – \$20.

📖 **Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts:** Created in Their Image: Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914 – \$50.

📖 **Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas:** Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than Water – \$35.

✝ **Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00)** of a painting of Sharon Church.



Visit our Website at <http://sharonmoravian.info>; Visit our Facebook Page and subscribe to our YouTube Channel. These are means by which we can connect to our brothers and sisters, and get the word out on what’s happening in the church. Like us; Follow us; Re-post us.



**Provincial Theme 2025:**

***“SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, and Re-Igniting Our Passion”***

**The focus for 2025 will be: Re-igniting our passion; for souls, service, and sustainability.**

***“Broadly speaking, renewing identity speaks of who we are as Christ-followers; renewing our purpose speaks to why the church exists; re-igniting our passion speaks to our willingness to share our faith with others. — Chairman of PEC***



**MARCH  
OF  
WITNESS**

Come and join us to make memories, stay active, and enjoy an evening full of positive energy.

**2 MARCH, 2025  
3:30 P.M**

**MALVERN GREAT HOUSE  
THROUGH VENTURE  
MT TABOR MORAVIAN CHURCH**

For more information contact  
The Moravian Church Barbados Conference Office - 537-7390

Gather your friends and family, and join us for a day of joy, fitness, and community spirit.